

**Remarks/Arguments**

The Final Office Action mailed April 29, 2008 has been reviewed and carefully considered.

Claims 1, 14 and 15 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Claim 2 remains canceled without prejudice. Claims 1 and 3-17 are now pending in this application.

Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as herein amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested. It should be noted that the Applicants are not conceding in this application that the amended claims in their prior form are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments have been made only to facilitate expeditious prosecution of the application. The Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Claims 1 and 3-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ghosh et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2001/005272 A1) (hereinafter 'Ghosh').

Claim 1 recites:

A barrier laminate including barrier and planarisation materials for use with a device layer, comprising:  
a device layer; and  
at least one discontinuous layer of a planarisation material that is external to the device layer and corresponds to a stack including the device layer, wherein the at least one discontinuous layer is divided into unconnected areas distributed along a plane,  
wherein the unconnected areas are separated by regions of a barrier material, and  
wherein the barrier material separating the unconnected areas is external to the device layer.

As agreed with the Supervisory Examiner in a telephone interview conducted on June 25, 2008, Ghosh does not disclose the feature of a discontinuous layer of planarisation material that corresponds to a stack including a device layer. Accordingly, claim 1 is not anticipated by Ghosh. In addition, claims 2-13 and 17 are not anticipated by Ghosh due at least to their dependencies from claim 1. Furthermore, claims 14 and 15

cite similar, relevant features discussed above regarding claim 1. Thus, claims 14 and 15 are not anticipated by Ghosh. Moreover, claim 16 is not anticipated by Ghosh due at least to its dependency from claim 14.


In view of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of the claims set forth in the Office Action of April 29, 2008 be withdrawn, that pending claims 1 and 3-17 be allowed, and that the case proceed to early issuance of Letters Patent in due course.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the application, they may be charged to applicant's representatives Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,


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